

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Alert Order for the German People's Police and the Kampfgruppen

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

2. The report gives a detailed list of officers who may call an alert in the Ministry of the Interior (MdI), the Main Administration of the German People's Police (HVDVP), the District Office of the DVP (BDVP), including Kampfgruppen battalions, the People's Police Kreis Offices (VPKAs) and the Main Department for Transport Police. The steps to be taken and the persons and offices to be alerted when either Alert Phase I or II is called are also given in detail.

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- I. This alert order serves the establishment of operational reserves in the shortest possible time and includes all measures from calling of the alert to march readiness. 50X1-HUM

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- II. This alert order is valid for the Ministry of the Interior and Main Administration German People's Police as office, the subordinate offices of the HVDVP, including combat groups of the working class, and DVP volunteers. 50X1-HUM

III. The alert may be called by:

1. For the Ministry of the Interior as office and the schools operating as central reserve:
  - a. the Minister of the Interior
  - b. the First Deputy Minister of the Interior
  - c. the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs
  - d. the operational duty officer by order of the persons listed under a to c.
2. For the Main Administration of the German People's Police (HVDVP) as office:
  - a. the Minister of the Interior
  - b. the First Deputy Minister of the Interior
  - c. the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs
  - d. the operational duty officer by order of the persons listed under a to c
  - e. the Head of Main Administration German People's Police
  - f. the Polit Deputy Head of HVDVP
  - g. the General Deputy Head of HVDVP
  - h. the Operational Deputy Head of HVDVP
  - i. the Head of the Operations Staff by order of the persons listed under a to h

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3. For the District Office of the DVP (BDVP) including Combat Group Battalions and the Forces immediately subordinate to the district in an emergency or the DVP Offices:
  - a. the Minister of the Interior
  - b. the First Deputy Minister of the Interior
  - c. the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs
  - d. the operational duty officer in the Ministry of the Interior by order of the persons listed under a to c
  - e. the Head of HVDVP for Search, Disaster and Practice Alerts
  - f. the Head of BDVP
  - g. First Deputy Head of BDVP
  - h. Chief of Staff of BDVP
  - i. the Head of the Operations Staff by order of the persons listed under a to h
4. For the People's Police Kreis Offices (VPKAs), Hundertschafts in the Kreise and the Forces and/or Offices directly subordinate to the Head of VPKA in an emergency:
  - a. the Minister of the Interior
  - b. the First Deputy Minister of the Interior
  - c. the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs
  - d. the operational duty officer in the Ministry of the Interior by order of the persons listed under a to c
  - e. the Head of HVDVP for Search, Disaster and Practice Alerts
  - f. the Head of BDVP
  - g. the First Deputy Head of BDVP
  - h. the Chief of Staff of BDVP
  - i. the Head of VPKA
  - j. the First Deputy Head of VPKA
  - k. the Chief of Staff of VPKA
  - l. the duty officer in the VPKA by order of the persons listed under a to k
5. For the Main Department Transport Police and its subordinate units and/or offices, the combat groups of the working class in the Reichsbahn area and the Transport Police volunteers:
  - a. the Minister of the Interior
  - b. the First Deputy Minister of the Interior
  - c. the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs
  - d. the operational duty officer of the Minister of the Interior by order of the persons listed under a to c
  - e. the Head of HVDVP for combat alert by permission of the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs, Search, Disaster and Practice Alerts
  - f. the Head of Main Department Transport Police for Combat Alerts by permission of the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Armed Organs, for Search, Disaster and Practice Alerts
  - g. the Chief of Staff of the Head of Main Department Transport Police for Alerts as listed under f
  - h. the Head of the Transport Police Section for the subordinate forces
  - i. the Operational Deputy of the Head of the Transport Police Office
  - j. the Head of the Transport Sick Quarters by permission of the Head of the Transport Police Office for the subordinate forces

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- IV. The calling of the alert for the combat groups by the proper authorities requires the consent of the First Secretary of the Bezirk headquarters. Upon sounding of the alert, the next superior staff must be notified when operational readiness is established. In this case special attention has to be paid to the subordination which becomes effective with the sounding of the alert. The report on the established operational readiness of the combat battalions has to be forwarded to the DVP by the commanders of the battalions. The alert of the combat group battalions is sounded directly by the BDVP Headquarters or through the VPKA Headquarters in the Kreis of which the respective battalion and/or a Hundertschaft subordinate to the battalion has its post.
- V. Alert Order:
1. When sounding the alert, a distinction must be made between
    - a. combat alert
    - b. search alert
    - c. disaster alert
    - d. practice alert
  2. The sounding of the alert can be carried out in two phases:
    - a. alert phase I
    - b. alert phase II
  3. For security reasons the combat alert has to be sounded by the transmission of code number or code words over the teletypewriter, telephone, radio, or by courier. The type of transmission depends on the individual situation and will be decided by the competent persons. When sounding the combat alert, sealed envelopes, bearing a code number and including the code number for the respective phase, will be used (additionally?) for the battalions of the Bezirke reserve combat groups. In addition to the code word for the alert phase the envelope has to include the control code word.

The Ministry of the Interior will send the sealed envelopes to the Head of HVDVP, Chief of BDVP, Head of Main Administration Transport Police, and Head and/or Commander of the offices or units appointed as central reserve.

The Chief of BDVP and the Head of Main Administration Transport Police in their own competence will then set up and issue code words to their subordinate offices with due regard to the new subordination situation.

Upon issuance of the code number and the respective code word by the proper quarters, the competent officer at the office or unit to be alerted has to demand the control code word from the person sounding the alert. The office or unit will only be alerted upon calling of the control code word by the person sounding the alert. The envelopes are to be designated "Secret" and are only to be opened when the code numbers and code words are given.

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## VI. Steps to be taken when sounding the Practice Alerts

## A. Combat Alert

## 1. Alert Phase I

## a. Persons and offices to be alerted

- 1) Chief of Staff of the Ministry of the Interior
- 2) Chief of the Administrations and Independent Departments in the Ministry of the Interior
- 3) Head and Deputy Head of MVDVP
- 4) Head and Deputy Head of the Disciplinary Section
- 5) Head of the Main Department of MVDVP and Head of the Independent Departments of MVDVP
- 6) Commander of the Central Reserve
- 7) Heads of the BDVPs, including BDVP Berlin
- 8) Heads of the VPKAs, Water Police and Water Inspection
- 9) Disciplinary Sections
- 10) Head of BDVP Wismuth
- 11) BDVP Deputy
- 12) Deputy Head of the VPKAs, Water Police, Water Inspection, and Disciplinary Sections
- 13) Departmental Heads and persons holding similar ranks in BDVP, VPKAs, Water Police offices, Water Inspection Offices, and Disciplinary Sections
- 14) Commander of the DVP tactical units, including schools
- 15) Staff members of the Ministry of the Interior, Bezirke, Kreise, and members of the operations staffs
- 16) Staff and/or house commanders
- 17) Party and FDJ Secretaries
- 18) all personnel responsible for weapons, motor vehicles, signal, supply and medical services
- 19) all VP members on duty.

## With the Transport Police

- 1) Head of the offices and commanders and deputy commanders of the units
- 2) Staff members
- 3) Heads for Weapons, Technical, Supply, Signal, and medical service

## With the Combat Groups

According to situation and urgency, some or all battalion commanders, commanders of the Hundertschaften and staff commanders, and the assistants for weapons and technical service.

- b. Upon the sounding of the alert, heads of offices, departmental heads, commanders of KG battalions and commanders of tactical DVP units have to report immediately in person to their respective chief of staffs or, in the case of greater distances, have to phone in by using the DVP telephone net.

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- c. The assistants for weapons and technical service in the combat groups have to prepare for a possible issuance of weapons to the group.
- d. Establishment of the operational readiness of the staffs at all levels.
- e. Preparations for the alert of all forces
- f. The unit on duty in the schools receives weapons and subsequently lines up in (near?) the shipment room. After a check of the operational readiness, the commander or sectional head gives orders for further tasks.
- g. The sectional head or the commander decides according to the situation if the training is to be continued or suspended.
- h. The guards and patrols maintain their positions in the guard or patrol areas until further notice from the sectional head.
- i. The sectional head has to include the volunteers on duty in the alert.
- j. Increased operational reconnaissance by the criminal investigation department and increased activity and organization of the information service.
- k. Orders on employment of train escort parties will be given when necessary.
- l. Curfew for kaserned units and schools.
- m. Increase of personnel employed at intelligence and deciphering equipment.
- n. Visitors are prohibited in the offices. The sectional head gives concrete instructions according to the situation.
- o. Shipment of explosives and radioactive means is to be suspended if necessary.
- p. The employment of prisoners in the production is to be suspended.
- q. Prisoner work details are to be called in; the calling in of permanent prisoner work details depends on the situation.
- r. Shipments of prisoners are to be reduced; all further measures are to take place by order of the commander or sectional head.

## 2. Alert Phase II

If alert phase II has been sounded without the prior sounding of alert phase I, all measures of alert phase I have to be carried out additionally.

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## a. Persons and offices to be alerted:

All DVP members, all DVP members on leave and, by special order of the proper quarters, partial or complete alert of the volunteers according to the situation, the volunteers of the combat groups of the working class, the German Red Cross, and the units and offices of the civil air defense through the command of the civil air defense.

- b. The responsibility for the alerting of DVP members who for private or official reasons are not within the office areas lies with their superior. DVP members who are not within the area of their office have to return immediately. In the event of unfavorable traffic conditions or major distances they have to report to the nearest office of the armed organs of the Ministry of the Interior and ask that their own office may be informed by phone of their whereabouts.
- c. Elimination of the normal duty and initiating of the security and operations measures according to the previously set up plan.
- d. Formation of tactical units according to previously set up plans and establishing of the march readiness of all units for the immediate completion of their tasks.
- e. The combat groups have to be armed and equipped if necessary. All additional measures will be initiated by order of the commander of sectional head.
- f. In the event of an air attack the forces will be alerted by the sounding of the combat alert. The measures to be taken will be specially ordered by the individual sectional heads or commanders.

## B. Search Alert

The search alert will be sounded openly. The measures to be taken are based on the orders for search employment.

## C. Disaster Alert

The disaster alert will be sounded openly. The persons to be alerted are the same as with the combat alert. The measures to be taken are based on the order for disaster employment.

## D. Practice Alert

- 1. Practice alerts have to be conducted in all DVP offices in order to establish a quick employment readiness. As a rule practice alerts include the same measures as combat alerts.
- 2. Practice alerts are to be **sounded by using specially marked envelopes** which include code numbers, code words and control code words.
- 3. The practice alerts can be conducted as closed alert practices or during operations exercises.

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4. Alert practices are usually to be planned by the own staff and then submitted to the superior staff for confirmation. The sounding and control of the practices will then be effected and supervised by the superior staff.
5. During each quarter, commanders or sectional heads have to sound a practice alert in their subordinate areas for training purposes. Practice alerts including a march have not to be registered. If they are, however, connected with tactical exercises, they have to be confirmed by the superior staff.
6. The time necessary for the establishment of operational readiness, after the sounding of an alert, amounts to 50 minutes for a DVP company of kaserne units or schools etc., 70 minutes for a detachment, 100 minutes for a battalion, and 15 minutes for the unit on duty.
7. The time required by non-kaserne DVP units, combat group battalions and Hundertschafts for the establishment of operational readiness is to be fixed at a minimum rate, according to local importance, by the heads of BDVP or the sectional heads of the Transport Police.

#### VII. General Instructions

1. Alert directives based on this alert order have to be posted in the offices.
2. The alert directives have also to include the following:
  - a. Signals and methods for the sounding of the individual alerts during duty and off duty hours.
  - b. Fixed periods of time for the individual measures.
  - c. Assembly place and assembly room for the individual alerts.
  - d. Assembly ground for tactical units.
  - e. Traffic or transportation means with which the offices or the assembly rooms and places can be reached.
  - f. Special security measures, reinforcement of the guards, instructions for the visitors, and instructions for the leaving of the office building.
3. The alert directives are to be confirmed by the individual offices or units under observation of the new subordination situation, the heads of BDVP responsible for the security employments, heads of VPAs and head of the Transport Police section, within four weeks after they become effective.

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4. The staffs of all levels and for HVDVP the operations staff are responsible for a continuous revision and supplementing of the alert order, based on structural and personnel changes, introduction of new technical directives at posts, etc. The present alert directives are to be handed over.

This alert order becomes effective 10 May 1960.

Comment: The information as a whole is believed correct although there may be some insignificant mistakes

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So-called operations phases as they were listed in the previous alert order which has been effective for less than 3 years, were omitted. More and more the Ministry of the Interior now leaves it up to the subordinate offices to issue corresponding directives according to local situations. It is assumed that the border and alert police have or will receive similar alert orders

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